

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-07 DLOS-09 OES-07 EB-07 DOTE-00
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R 031300Z MAY 77
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AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMCONSUL ADANA
AMEMBASSY ISTANBUL
AMCONSUL IZMIR
AMCONSUL MONTREAL
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
USMISSION NATO
USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES
USDOCOALSE IZMIR
CINCEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 3370

CINCEUR FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, PLOS, TU, GR
SUBJECT: DISCUSSION OF AEGEAN DISPUTES BY GREEK AND TURKISH FONMINS

REF: ANKARA 2292 (DTG 291500Z MAR 77) (NOTAL)

1. MFA INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION AFFAIRS DIRECTOR SOYLEMEZ
MAY 3 REVIEWED WITH DCM THE RESULTS OF THE RECENT MEETING
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BETWEEN FONMINS CAGLAYANGIL AND BITSIOS AT STRASBOURG.
SOYLEMEZ CHARACTERIZED THE TWO-HOUR STRASBOURG SESSION AS
A "GOOD MEETING" IN THAT IT DEMONSTRATED THAT THE TWO SIDES
WERE WILLING TO CONTINUE WITH NEGOTIATIONS EVEN DURING THE
PERIOD BEFORE THE TURKISH GENERAL ELECTIONS JUNE 5.

2. SOYLEMEZ SAID THAT ON THE AEGEAN CONTINENTAL SHELF

DELIMITATION PROBLEM, THE TWO SIDES AGREED TO HAVE A FURTHER ROUND PROBABLY IN LATE MAY. HE BELIEVED THAT THERE WAS NOW AN UNDERSTANDING BY BOTH SIDES ON THE TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE NEGOTIATORS AND THE JOINT COMMITTEE. ACCORDING TO SOYLEMEZ, THE TWO NEGOTIATORS WOULD BEGIN NEGOTIATIONS (WHICH HE CHARACTERIZED AS "POLITICAL") AND, IN THEIR CAPACITY AS CHAIRMEN OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE, WOULD SEEK OPINIONS, EXAMPLES, PRECEDENTS, ETC. AS NEEDED FROM THE COMMITTEE. SOYLEMEZ SAID THAT IN THIS WAY A "COMPROMISE" HAD BEEN REACHED ON THE QUESTION OF PRIMACY AND THAT THIS SOLUTION MET THE TURKISH CONCERN THAT THE COMMITTEE MIGHT DEVELOP AN "INDEPENDENT POWER" APART FROM THE "JURISDICTION OF THE TWO NEGOTIATORS". THE NEGOTIATORS IN TURN ARE TO PRESENT THEIR FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE "ARBITRATION" OF THE TWO FOREIGN MINISTERS. HOWEVER, WHEN ASKED IF THE NEGOTIATORS WERE TO SEEK A SINGLE JOINTLY RECOMMENDED DELIMITATION, OR WOULD DEVISE VARIOUS ALTERNATIVE PROPOSALS TO PRESENT TO THE FONMINS' ARBITRATION, SOYLEMEZ RESPONDED VAGUELY.

3. CONCERNING THE AEGEAN AIRSPACE DISPUTE, SOYLEMEZ EXPLAINED THAT GOT HAD BEEN WAITING SINCE MARCH 16 FOR RESPONSE TO ITS COMPREHENSIVE PROPOSAL FOR A RESOLUTION OF THE DISPUTE (REFTEL). SOYLEMEZ SAID THAT BITSIOS "WAS NOT VERY HAPPY" WITH THE TURKISH PROPOSAL AND HAD QUESTIONED THE REASON FOR THE GOT'S INCLUSION OF "MATTERS OF PRINCIPLE" IN ITS NOTE. SOYLEMEZ STATED THAT GOT EXPLAINED THAT IT HAD BEEN INSPIRED BY THE EARLIER GOG PROPOSAL AND BY GREEK PRIME MINISTER CARAMANLIS' INTEREST IN A "DURABLE SOLUTION". ACCORDING TO CONFIDENTIAL

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SOYLEMEZ, BITSIOS, WHEN QUESTIONED, RESPONDED THAT GREEKS WERE NOT PRIMARILY INTERESTED IN AN ULTIMATE SOLUTION, BUT RATHER IN A TEMPORARY, PRACTICAL APPROACH TO RESOLVING THE DISPUTE WHICH AVOIDED CONTENTIOUS MATTERS OF PRINCIPLE. FURTHER, BITSIOS SAID THAT GREECE HAD SOME NEW IDEAS WHICH WOULD BE PRESENTED TO THE TURKS SHORTLY. GRINNING BROADLY, SOYLEMEZ SAID THE RECENT EXCHANGE OF NOTES HAD BEEN A "USEFUL EXERCISE" AND ACKNOWLEDGED DCM'S COMMENT THAT IT APPEARED THAT MOST RECENT GREEK PROPOSAL AND TURKISH COUNTER-PROPOSAL HAD NOW BEEN "SET ASIDE".
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 03-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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